

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Steven Highlander on July 8, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 1: (currently amended) A monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to GW 182 protein or antigenic fragments [or portions] thereof.

Claim 8: A method of [diagnosing] detecting the presence of GW 182 in serum comprising contacting serum suspected of containing GW 182 with a monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to GW 182 protein or antigenic fragments [or portions] thereof, allowing the monoclonal antibody to bind GW 182 or [a portion] antigenic fragments thereof, and detecting the presence of bound monoclonal antibody.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the instant claims define over the prior art of record because the prior art of record fail to teach a monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to GW 182 protein or antigenic fragments thereof.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bao-Thuy L. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-0824. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -- Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Long V. Le can be reached on (571) 272-0823. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Bao-Thuy L. Nguyen/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1641
July 14, 2008